(b) if so, the latest update of the case; and

(c) whether any action has been taken against either of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Possibility of Nuclear War

1678. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the recent stand off with Pakistan, there is a possibility of a nuclear war and the threat from chemical and biological weapons is now a reality; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to protect the fighting forces and public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Pakistan has, on several occasions including during the recent standoff, averred rejection of the doctrine of no-first-use of nuclear weapons. The implications of such a policy are self-evident.

In addition to reports about alleged violations of international instruments banning chemical and biological weapons, risks of access by non-State actors and terrorists to these weapons of mass destruction have also surfaced in recent years.

(b) Government continues to closely monitor all developments related to Pakistan's nuclear and missile programmes, as also possible threats from use of chemical and biological weapons, and remains fully committed to take all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and national interests

TerroristTraining Camps in Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir

1679. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that terrorist training camps are still runing in Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir despite the fact that General Musharraf had promised to close them permanently;